

ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY



ARKANSAS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS UP 2 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

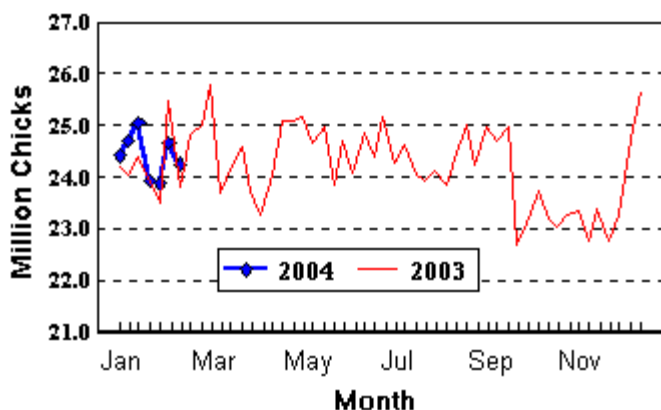
Broiler-type chicks placed for meat production in Arkansas was 24.3 million during the week ending February 14, 2004. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week in 2003, but down 2 percent from the previous week, and included 2.4 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through February 14, 2004 were 171.1 million, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type chicks hatched for the week was 25.5 million, down 1 percent both from the corresponding week a year earlier, and also from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 3.2 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 83.0 percent.

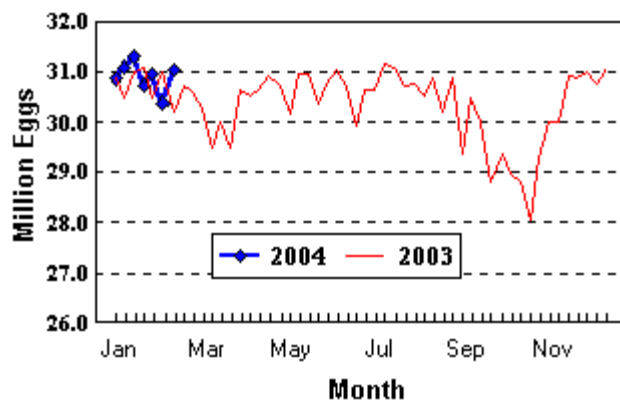
Arkansas hatcheries set 31.1 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending February 14, 2004, up 3 percent from the same period last year, and up 2 percent from the previous week.

Week Ending	NET PLACEMENTS			CHICKS HATCHED			EGGS SET		
	2003	2004	% Change	2003	2004	% Change	2003	2004	% Change
	<i>1,000</i>			<i>1,000</i>			<i>1,000</i>		
Jan. 10	24,081	24,747	103	24,771	25,312	102	30,485	31,084	102
Jan. 17	24,397	25,061	103	24,693	25,677	104	31,023	31,324	101
Jan. 24	23,950	23,942	100	25,618	25,486	99	31,087	30,728	99
Jan. 31	23,524	23,910	102	25,325	25,719	102	30,468	30,944	102
Feb. 7	25,475	24,701	97	25,519	25,821	101	30,994	30,374	98
Feb. 14	23,806	24,281	102	25,709	25,491	99	30,194	31,055	103

CHICKS PLACED IN ARKANSAS, 2003-2004



EGGS SET, 2003 - 2004



BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2004

STATE	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending				1/ %	Week Ending						1/ %
	24-Jan	31-Jan	07-Feb	14-Feb		10-Jan	17-Jan	24-Jan	31-Jan	07-Feb	14-Feb	
Alabama	29,462	29,084	29,171	29,273	103	21,719	21,967	22,008	22,264	21,502	21,695	105
ARKANSAS	30,728	30,944	30,374	31,055	103	24,747	25,061	23,942	23,910	24,701	24,281	102
Delaware	3,917	3,624	3,710	3,703	110	4,224	5,447	5,397	5,369	4,860	4,216	74
Florida	1,364	1,347	1,364	1,354	84	1,609	1,637	1,561	1,603	1,859	1,689	97
Georgia	33,130 *	33,063	33,374	32,887	106	24,976	26,153	25,937	25,636	25,780	25,613	99
Kentucky	5,657 *	6,459	7,099 *	7,016	111	5,742	5,541	5,744	5,254	5,582 *	4,550	85
Maryland	8,680	8,840	8,570	8,930	103	6,186	4,842	4,698	5,461	5,508	6,353	117
Mississippi	18,957	19,207	18,928	19,229	102	16,012	16,632	16,314	16,402	16,598	16,309	102
N. Carolina	17,978 *	17,573	18,097	18,337	100	14,017	14,115	13,863	14,303	14,056	13,703	96
Oklahoma	6,423	5,655	6,338	6,346	99	4,995	4,471	4,648	5,250	4,902	4,917	111
Pennsylvania	3,749	3,524 *	3,722 *	3,788	110	2,591	2,626	2,533	2,532 *	2,646 *	2,656	104
S. Carolina	3,683	3,646	3,638	3,488	72	4,437	3,467	4,308	4,204	4,162 *	4,154	118
Texas	14,785	14,754	14,785	14,976	101	11,999	12,018	11,865	12,098	12,165	12,172	99
Virginia	6,266	6,129	6,363	6,308	97	5,088	4,798	4,779	4,751	5,634	5,099	91
CA,LA,MO,TN,WV	20,801	20,554	20,986	20,935	106	18,427	17,754	17,918	19,061	18,912 *	18,852	101
Total 2004	205,580 *	204,403 *	206,519 *	207,625		166,769	166,529	165,515	168,098 *	168,867 *	166,259	
Total 2003	204,707	203,905	202,772	202,449		162,132	163,604	166,045	166,420	164,887	165,871	
%Prev. Year	100	100	102	103		103	102	100	101	102	100	
Approximate Marketing Date 2004						28-Feb	06-Mar	13-Mar	20-Mar	27-Mar	03-Apr	

* Revised. 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 3 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 208 million eggs during the week ending February 14, 2004. This was up 3 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP SLIGHTLY

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 166 million chicks for meat production during the week ending February 14, 2004. Placements were up slightly from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through February 14, 2004 were 1.17 billion, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.